CLAIMS

1.- Use of IFN-alpha 5 or the gene sequence coding for it and/or essentially derived gene sequences for the manufacture of compositions useful in the treatment of liver diseases.

2.- Use according to claim 1, for the manufacture of compositions useful in the treatment of chronic hepatitis C.

3.- Use according to claim 1, for the manufacture of compositions useful in the treatment of cirrhosis of viral origin.

4.- Use according to claim 1, for the manufacture of compositions useful in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma.

5.- Use according to any one of claims 1-4, in which the manufactured composition is used to genetically induce physiological synthesis of interferon alpha 5, at nuclear level, in diseased liver cells deficient in that synthesis.

6.- Use according to any one of claims 1-4, in which manufacture of the composition comprises developing a recombinant protein for human application by cloning an expression vector in an appropriate host.

7.- Use according to claim 6, in which the cloned host is a eucaryote organism, preferably *Escherichia Coli*.

8.- Use according to claim 6, in which the cloned host is a procaryote organism, preferably *Solanum tuberosum*.

9.- Use according to any one of the foregoing claims, in which the manufactured composition is a composition which can be ingested with food.

10.- Use according to claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the manufactured composition is a composition for somatic gene therapy.

add 3

add c 2